

**Remarks**

Further to the Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Priority Claim of today's date, Applicant is amending the present application as set forth above. A clean and marked up copy of the first page of the specification is enclosed.

Dated: June 4, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

meenah

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U.S. Nonprovisional Application Serial No. 10/001,257 filed 11/27/01  
Replacement sheet for page 1 of specification (clean copy)

## No-Spill Drinking Cup Apparatus

**Inventors:** Nouri E. Hakim Monroe, Louisiana

### Related Applications

The present application is a continuation of U.S Nonprovisional Application Serial No. 09/138,588 filed August 21, 1998 (patented), which claims the priority of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/056,218 filed August 21, 1997. The priority of both applications is claimed, and both applications are fully incorporated herein by reference.

### Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a no-spill cup assembly with an improved valve mechanism to prevent liquid from flowing out of the cup when not desired.

### Background of the Invention

No-spill cup assemblies are well known in the art. In the past, a variety of such assemblies have been developed and marketed. In general, the goal of a no-spill cup is to provide a construction which minimizes or prevents liquid from emerging out of the cup when liquid flow is not desired, i.e. when the user is not drinking. However, though the assemblies of the prior art are intended to avoid such accidents, their construction is such that they generally do not provide a secure enough protection against undesirable spilling or leakage. Thus, when such cups are inverted, or more significantly, when they are shaken vigorously, liquid will often emerge from them. This can be a particular problem with young children, for whom these cups are usually intended. Accordingly, there is a need in the art for an improved cup assembly for preventing undesired spilling of liquids.



## No-Spill Drinking Cup Apparatus

Inventors: Nouri E. Hakim Monroe, Louisiana

### Related Applications

[The present application claims all rights of priority to U.S. Nonprovisional Application Serial No. 09/138,588 filed August 21, 1998, U.S. Nonprovisional Application No. 09/271,779 filed March 18, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/056,218 filed August 21, 1997, all of which are fully incorporated herein by reference]. The present application is a continuation of U.S. Nonprovisional Application Serial No. 09/138,588 filed August 21, 1998 (patented), which claims the priority of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/056,218 filed August 21, 1997. The priority of both applications is claimed, and both applications are fully incorporated herein by reference.

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